

Claims

[c1] A method for optimizing golf car deployment comprising the steps of:
recording golf car usage record based on axle revolutions;
associating a golf car identification with the usage record;
communicating the usage record and associated identification to a data store;
calculating total usage data for each golf car identification; and
reporting total usage data.

[c2] The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
calculating golf car rental income data for a predetermined time frame;
calculating golf car usage data for the same time frame; and
comparing rental income data with usage data whereby discrepancies between
actual use and rental records may be resolved.

[c3] The method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of:
providing a software conduit for exporting golf car rental income data to the
data store from an accounting application.

[c4] The method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of providing a software
conduit for importing golf car usage data from the data store to an accounting
application.

[c5] The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of calculating a usage–
income efficiency value based on the step of comparing rental income data with
usage data.

[c6] The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of identifying at least one
or more employees responsible for collecting golf car rental income and
grouping the usage–income efficiency value with the at least one or more
employees.

[c7] The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of measuring the usage–
income efficiency value of a first golf course operation against a second golf
course operation to determine the relative profitability of each course in view of
golf car usage.

- [c8] The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of: prioritizing the deployment of golf cars based on total usage data; and communicating a priority order by a visual indicator.
- [c9] The method of claim 8 wherein the visual indicator comprises at least one light emitting diode.
- [c10] The method of claim 8 wherein the visual indicator comprises a liquid crystal display.
- [c11] The method of claim 10 wherein the liquid crystal display indicates deployment priority numerically.
- [c12] The method of claim 10 wherein the liquid crystal display indicates deployment priority alphabetically.
- [c13] The method of claim 10 wherein the liquid crystal display also indicates a battery capacity level.
- [c14] The method of claim 10 wherein the liquid crystal display also indicates golf car position by global positioning satellite.
- [c15] The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of: grouping total usage data into operational units; calculating a benchmark value across a plurality of operational units; and comparing usage data of an individual operational unit against the benchmark value to quantify the relative success of the individual operational unit.
- [c16] The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of modifying marketing programs responsive to the comparison.
- [c17] The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of modifying personnel scheduling responsive to the comparison.
- [c18] The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of modifying maintenance programs responsive to the comparison.
- [c19] The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of concealing the identity

of the other operational units from the individual operation unit under comparison to encourage participation of a plurality of operational units without concern that competitive data might be disseminated.

- [c20] The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
collecting golf car battery level data concurrently with usage data;
correlating battery level data and usage data; and
evaluating battery performance based on usage data.
- [c21] The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of associating product warranty data with battery performance to verify product warranty claims.
- [c22] The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of scheduling preemptive maintenance responsive to poor battery performance.
- [c23] The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of transmitting battery performance to original battery manufacturers.
- [c24] The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
scheduling maintenance procedures based on usage data.
- [c25] The method of claim 24 further comprising the step of optimizing staffing schedules coincident with the scheduled maintenance procedures.
- [c26] The method of claim 24 further comprising the step of optimizing the scheduled maintenance procedures coincident with low equipment demand periods.
- [c27] The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of confirming golf car inventory based on the golf car identification.
- [c28] The method of claim 27 further comprising the steps of establishing a predetermined inventory value and reporting a deviation of the value in the confirmation step.
- [c29] The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of reporting the confirmation to an original equipment manufacturer having a security interest in the golf cars.

[c30] The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of reporting the confirmation to an insurer having a security interest in the golf cars.

[c31] The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of reporting the confirmation to a lender having a security interest in the golf cars.